

The second round of the autumn swimming leagues saw Harborough 'A' compete in the National Arena league at Matlock, whilst the 'B' team had a home fixture at the Harborough leisure centre in the Leicester league.

For the A team the boys 11/u quartet of Frankie Aldridge, Ben Bekavac, Jay Newman and Ben Wellicome dominated both their relays with Bekavac and Newman also taking individual victory in the 50m back and breast respectively. Newman has recently hit a rich vein of form also taking second place in the 13/u 100m breast and with it a new club record of 1:28.74. The girl's 11/u also saw some impressive swims in particular from Ellie Buxton in the 50m breast and Georgia Weller in the 50m fly, who both captured second place finishes in personal best (pb) times.

In the 13/u age group, victories were harder to come by, there were however pb swims recorded by Grace Bolton (100m free) and Emily Kendall (100m breast).

The 15/u saw Maria Radoja courageously step in at the last minute for an ill team mate to compete in the 100m free, in which she smashed her personal best time and earned the team some valuable additional points. Kieran Flint continues to improve with each race, this time lowering his pb in the 100m fly.

The ladies open team took four individual victories through the combined talents of Candice Hall (200m IM, 100m back and Fly) and Olivia Weller (100m breast). Hall and Weller also won their medley relay with strong support from Lauren Bekavac and Kirsty Haynes. In the men's open Harry Waddington won his second successive 100m free race and there was a welcome return to the team for Theo Brogan, who broke his pb's in the 200m IM and 100m breast.

The boys team may have lost out to the girls in terms of race victories, but they did provide the crowd with a prolonged and dazzling display of poolside synchronised dancing led by Waddington and Ben Wellicome, ably supported by Ben Bekavac, Sonny To, Oliver Tremlett and Tom Tonge amongst others between their races.

For the second gala in succession the Harborough B team were drawn against very strong opposition making race wins difficult to come by. The team's only victory of the evening came from Josh Wellicome in the boys 12/u 50m back.

The standard of swimming and commitment was high throughout the evening from the Harborough swimmers who recorded a total of thirteen second place finishes and sixteen pb swims from Lexi Moakes, Adam Stewart, Rebecca Giles, James Marston, Ebony Goddard, John Green, Sarah Williams, Jenna Richards, Tom Wainwright, James Merryweather (2), George Robinson, Freya Johnson, Rosie Tremlett and Tom Merryweather. Cameron Baxter made a promising debut for the team swimming in the boys 14/u.

Gala Results:-

Arena League; Hinckley 235, Radford 200, Harborough 'A' 196, Matlock 146, Burntwood 133, Ludlow 124

Leicester League; Leicester Sharks 'C' 215, Coalville 'B' 197, Nene Valley 196, Wellingborough 'B' 188, Harborough 'B' 169.